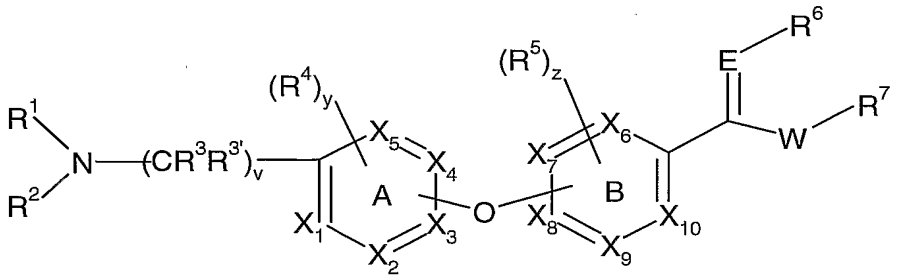
We claim:

1. A compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein

each of X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6, X_7, X_8, X_9 and X_{10} is C, CH, or N; provided that each of rings A or B has no more than 2 nitrogen atoms;

E is O or N; provided that when E is O, R^6 is absent from E-R^6; and further provided that when E is O and R^6 is absent, then W is not NR^7;

W is O or NR^7;

v is 1, 2, or 3;

R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, C_1-C_{10} alkylaryl, $C(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, $CO(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, SO_2C_1-C_8 alkyl, SO_2C_1-C_{10} alkylaryl, C_1-C_8 alkylheterocyclic, SO_2C_1-C_8 alkylheterocyclic, C_1-C_{10} alkylcycloalkane, C_1-C_8 alkoxyalkyl, $(CH_2)_nC(O)OR^8$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)R^8$, $(CH_2)_mC(O)NR^8R^8$, and $(CH_2)_mNSO_2R^8$; wherein each of the alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclic and aryl groups are optionally substituted with one to five groups independently selected from oxo, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, phenyl, C_1-C_8 alkylaryl, $C(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, $CO(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, C_1-C_8 alkoxy, SO_2C_1-C_8 alkyl, SO_2C_1-C_8 alkylaryl, SO_2C_1-C_8 alkylheterocyclic, C_1-C_{10} alkylcycloalkane, $(CH_2)_nC(O)OR^8$, and $(CH_2)_nC(O)R^8$; and wherein R^1 and R^2 may optionally combine together to form a 4, 5, 6, or 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocycle which nitrogen -containing heterocycle is optionally substituted with 1, 2, or 3 substitutents independently selected from the group consisting of oxo, amino, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl, C_1-C_8 alkoxy, phenyl, C_1-C_8 alkylaryl, $C(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, $CO(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, halo, and C_1-C_8 haloalkyl;

R^3 and $R^{3'}$ are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl, phenyl, aryl, C_1-C_8 alkylaryl;
R^4 and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl, C_1-C_8 alkoxy, halo, C_1-C_8 haloalkyl, phenyl, aryl, C_1-C_8 alkylaryl, $(CH_2)_mNSO_2C_1$-C_8 alkyl, $(CH_2)_mNSO_2$phenyl, $(CH_2)_mNSO_2$aryl, -$C(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, and -$C(O)OC_1$-C_8 alkyl; wherein each R^4 and R^5 is attached to its respective ring only at carbon atoms, and wherein y is 0, 1, 2, or 3; and wherein z is 0, 1, 2, or 3;
R^6 and R^7 are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl, $C(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_8 alkoxy, aryl, C_1-C_8 alkylaryl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, C_1-C_8 alkylheterocyclic, C_1-C_{10} alkylcycloalkyl, -NHC_1-C_8 alkyl, $(CH_2)_nC(O)OR^8$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)R^8$, $(CH_2)_mC(O)NR^8R^8$, and $(CH_2)_mNSO_2R^8$; wherein each of the alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclic, and aryl groups is optionally substituted with one to 3 groups independently selected from C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, phenyl, and C_1-C_8 alkylaryl; and wherein R^6 and R^7 optionally combine together to form a 5, 6, or 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocycle with E and W; and wherein the nitrogen containing heterocycle is optionally substituted with 1-2 groups independently selected from the group consisting of oxo, amino, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl, phenyl, C_1-C_8 alkylaryl, $C(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, $CO(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, hydroxy, C_1-C_8 alkoxy, halo, and haloalkyl;
R^8 is hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_5-C_8 alkylaryl, $(CH_2)_mNSO_2C_1$-C_8 alkyl, $(CH_2)_mNSO_2$aryl, -$C(O)C_1$-C_8 alkyl, or -$C(O)OC_1$-C_8 alkyl; n is 0, 1, 2, or 3; and m is 1, 2 or 3;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, enantiomer, racemate, diastereomers or mixtures thereof.

2. The compound according to claim 1 wherein the A-ring is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, and pyridazine.

3. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein the B-ring is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, and pyridazine.

4. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein the A-ring is phenyl and the B ring is pyridinyl.

5. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein the A ring is phenyl and the B ring is pyrazinyl.

6. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein the A-ring is pyridinyl and the B-ring is phenyl.

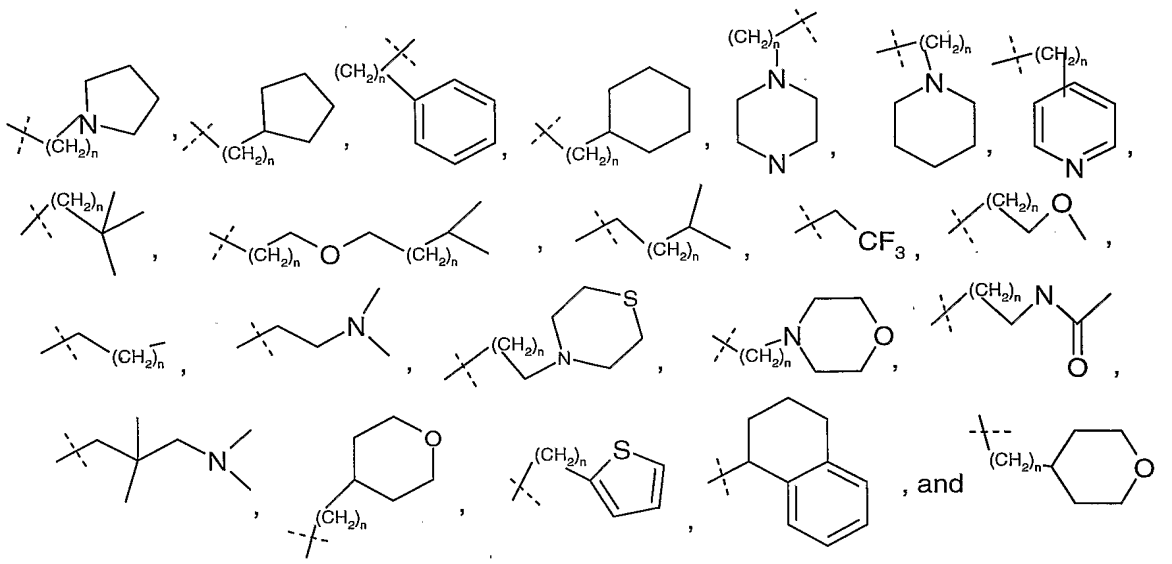
7. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein both rings A and B are phenyl.

8. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein E is a nitrogen atom.

9. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein y is 0, 1, or 2, and R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, phenyl, and benzyl.

10. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein z is 0, 1, or 2, and R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, phenyl, and benzyl.

11. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein R^1 and R^2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, phenyl,



and wherein n is 1, 2, or 3.

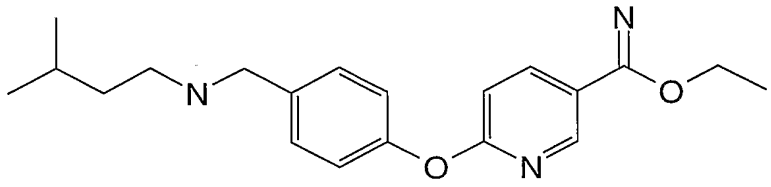
12. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein R^6 and R^7 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, and phenyl.

13. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein v is 1 or 2.

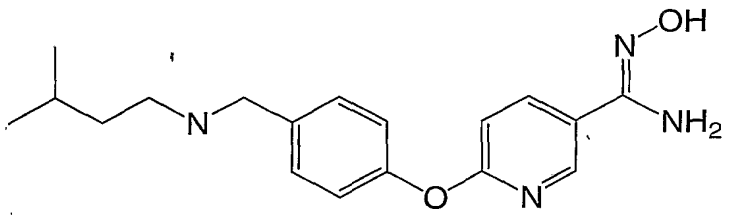
14. A compound according to Claims 1 wherein v is 2, m is 1, n is 1, y is 0 or 1 and z is 0 or 1.

15. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

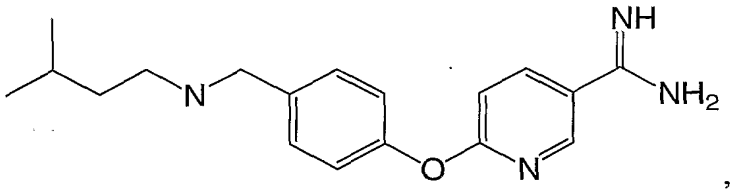
6-{4-[(3-Methyl-butylamino)-methyl]-phenoxy}-nicotinimidic acid ethyl ester



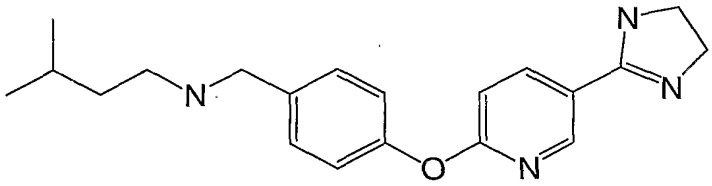
N-Hydroxy-6-{4-[(3-methyl-butylamino)-methyl]-phenoxy}-nicotinamidine



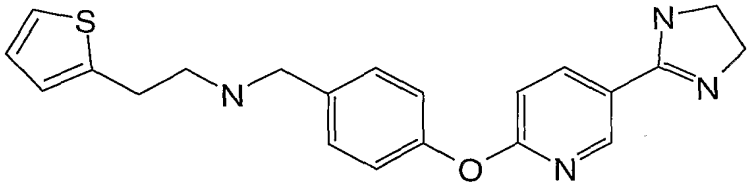
6-{4-[(3-Methyl-butylamino)-methyl]-phenoxy}-nicotinamidine



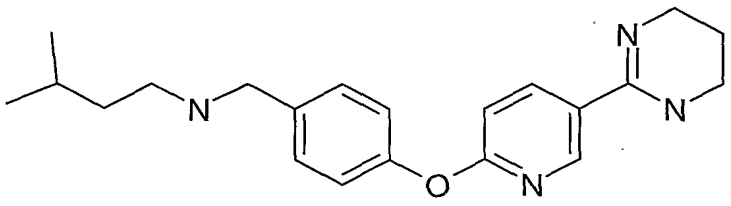
{4-[5-(4,5-Dihydro-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-pyridin-2-yloxy]-benzyl}-(3-methyl-butyl)-amine



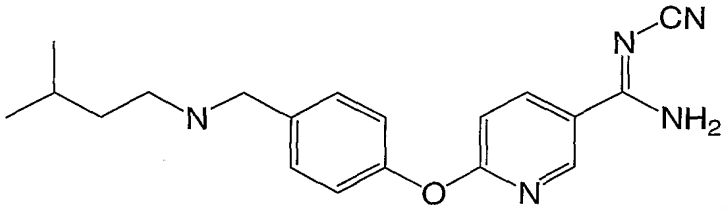
{4-[5-(4,5-Dihydro-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-pyridin-2-yloxy]-benzyl}-(2-thiophen-2yl-ethyl)amine



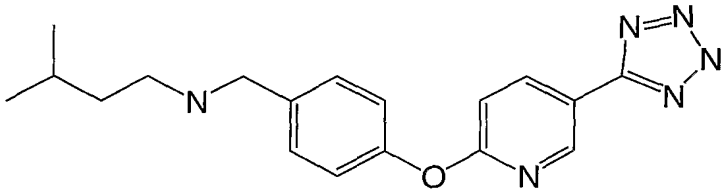
(3-Methyl-butyl)-{4-[5-(1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2-yl)-pyridin-2-yloxy]-benzyl}-amine



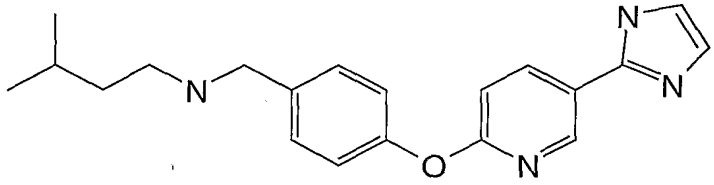
N-Cyano-6-{4-[(3-methyl-butylamino)-methyl]-phenoxy}-nicotinamidine



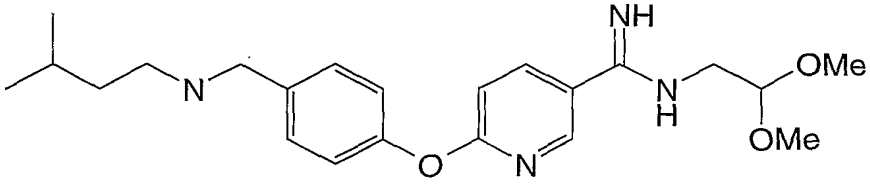
(3-Methyl-butyl)-{4-[5-(2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-pyridin-2-yloxy]-benzyl}-amine



{4-[5-(1H-Imidazol-2-yl)-pyridin-2-yloxy]-benzyl}-(3-methyl-butyl)-amine



N-(2,2-Dimethoxy-ethyl)-6-{4-[(3-methyl-butylamino)-methyl]-phenoxy}-nicotinamidine



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, enantiomer, diastereomer and diastereomeric mixture thereof.

16. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is the hydrochloric acid salt, the methanesulfonic acid salt, hydrobromide salt, the bisulfate salt or tartaric acid salt.

17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 in association with a carrier, diluent and/or excipient.

18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 15 in association with a carrier, diluent and/or excipient.

19. A method for blocking a mu, kappa, delta or receptor combination (heterodimer) thereof in mammals comprising administering to a mammal requiring blocking of a mu, kappa, delta or receptor combination (heterodimer) thereof, a receptor blocking dose of a compound according to Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, racemate, mixture of diastereomers, or solvate thereof.

20. A method of treating and/or preventing obesity and Related Diseases comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I to a patient in need thereof.

21. A method of treating and/or preventing diseases related to obesity including irritable bowel syndrome, nausea, vomiting, obesity-related depression, obesity–related anxiety, smoking and alcohol addiction, sexual dysfunction, substance abuse, drug overdose, addictive behavior disorders, compulsive behaviors, metabolic diseases, and stroke, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I.

22. A method according to Claim 20 wherein the Related Diseases is selected from the group consisting of diabetes, diabetic complications, diabetic retinopathy,

atherosclerosis, hyperlipidemia, hypertriglycemia, hyperglycemia, and hyperlipoproteinemia.

23. A method of suppressing appetite in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I.

24. Use of a compound according to Claim 1 for the manufactrure of a medicament for the treatment of obesity and Ralted Diseases.

25. Use of a compound according to Claim 15 for the treatment of weight loss comprising administering an effective dose of said compound to a person in need thereof.